



Sustainable Urban Management IQC

USAID Quarterly Report XXV

April- June 2006



Prepared for the U.S. Agency for International Development

**International City / County Management Association
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Task Order No.: 3

Task Order Title: Caribbean Downtown Development Leadership Forum Partnership

Period of Performance: 10/3/05-9/30/06

USAID Office/Mission: Washington, D.C.

CTO: Edgar Thornton

I. Introduction

In 2007, Jamaica, Barbados and several other Caribbean islands will host the ICC World Cricket Cup, an event expected to draw 200,000 – 300,000 spectators, media representatives, and others to Kingston and Trelawny, the two venues for matches in Jamaica. Conducting an event of this scale will require intensive planning, organization and coordination amongst a variety of public and private entities. The EGAT, Office of Poverty Reduction – Urban Programs Team (EGAT/PR/UP) and USAID/Jamaica seek to assist the Government of Jamaica, Kingston and St. Andrew Parish Council, Jamaica Chamber of Commerce, and other public and private sector stakeholders strengthen their capacity to effectively work together to finalize plans and implement the range of actions necessary to ensure the success of the event, which will serve as an important opportunity to project a positive image of the host countries to the rest of the world.

EGAT/PR/UP and USAID/Jamaica has partnered with ICMA, the International Downtown Association (IDA) and the Jamaican Chamber of Commerce to organize and carry out several workshops in Kingston, Jamaica with key public and private stake holders. The primary outcome of these workshops was a consensus-based action plan that identifies priority actions they need to take to ensure that Kingston and Trelawny are well-prepared to host this major sporting and tourism event. The plan outlines the role key entities should play in carrying out these actions, maps out a proposed timeline, and identifies available/potential resources. Additionally, the action plan identifies key areas of need for the follow-on technical assistance planned by USAID/Jamaica.

While the primary focus of these workshops was on how the City of Kingston can prepare for the 2007 ICC World Cricket Cup, the workshops also served as a forum to bring together key stakeholders from other Caribbean islands that will play host to World Cup matches and face similar planning challenges and tourism/economic development opportunities.

II. Major Accomplishments

Dave Feehan, International Downtown Association (IDA), Katherine Beebe, representing the Detroit Greater Downtown Partnership and Detroit Super Bowl Host Committee, and independent consultant, Paul Childs met with leaders of Kingston's private sector April 9-12, 2006 to review progress and compare organizational structures, objectives, project plans and schedules with those used in Detroit in preparation for the World Cup Cricket event in 2007. An organizational plan and framework were developed in the work sessions and presented as part of an overall charter and plan to the business leadership team (initially named the Greater Kingston Work Team). The consultants and USAID staff were also able to come to consensus on the

charter and action plan. The trip report, which will be distributed, contains recommendations for suggested next steps for continuing technical assistance.

III. Challenges/Remedial Actions Taken

N/A

IV. Projected Activities

There are no projected activities as the remaining funds were exhausted and added monies to the Task Order are currently being sought. A final report of the program will be submitted to USAID.

Task Order No.:03

Task Order Title: Urban Planning GIS Workshop and Capacity Building Activities

Period of Performance: April 1, 2005- September 30, 2006

USAID Office/Mission: Washington, D.C.

CTO: Edgar Thornton

I. Introduction

International City County Management Association (ICMA), through funding provide by the U.S. Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), will collaborate to develop and implement a workshop aimed at increasing the capacity of cities in the Middle East and North Africa to address urban poverty and development with the aid of geospatial information technology.

The proposed workshop, *Geoinformation for Sustainable Cities*, addresses the overarching OES Bureau Program Plan (BPP) goal of promoting Sustainable Development and Good Governance in urban areas of the Muslim World through five mechanisms: (1) enhancing local government capacity to make informed policy decisions (2) promoting transparency through access to accurate information and science-based decision-making tools; (3) implementing public-private partnerships that leverage resources and strengthen international cooperation; (4) contributing to Muslim World Outreach by facilitating access to U.S. information technologies (IT) and scientific know-how; (5) enhancing the role of women through capacity building and active participation in this dialogue between experts and policy-makers addressing societal problems in a complex urban context.

The workshop objectives that contribute to accomplishing the overarching goal are: (1) introducing urban planners and policy makers (both men and women) in the rapidly growing cities of the Middle East and North Africa region (MENA) to innovative ways to improve decision making capacity through the use of geospatial information technology; (2) the application of geospatial tools, and providing them with GIS software to keep and PDS hardware to use in the workshop; (3) training these urban planners and policy makers in the use of the resulting geospatial data to develop strategies/policies for addressing pervasive urban problems such as poverty; and (4) providing these professionals with examples of the application of geospatial tools in cities of both developed and developing countries that can be applied in their specific urban contexts.

In order to accomplish the above objectives, ICMA proposes to design, conduct, and facilitate a 5-day workshop in Amman, Jordan May 7-11, 2006 for 40 participants, half of whom are decision makers in their cities, and half of whom are technical engineers, in these same cities, who will benefit from hands-on training in the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and the Global Positioning System (GPS). The workshop participants will attend sessions designed to either hone their skills in GIS and GPS technology, in the case of the engineers, or to gain a better understanding of how geospatial information technology might be applied in city planning decision-making. Presenters will include regional experts highlighting case studies from cities

where GIS mapping has been used successfully in urban planning, as well as experts from other regions who will provide lessons learned from their perspective that can be adapted for use in this region. Speakers from the MENA region will be invited to share their insights in order to motivate others to take advantage of the opportunities for better planning through the use of geospatial information tools.

II. Major Accomplishments

Due to a lack of a sufficient number of participants confirmed for the May workshop, the planning group decided to postpone the workshop until July 16-20. This has allowed more time to invite and confirm participants and speakers from the MENA region.

USAID and Department of State gathered contact information for potential participants and ICMA sent invitations and began collecting responses. The agenda was further developed and speakers were identified for the sessions. The venue in Amman was secured and ICMA began working with a partner in Amman on logistical arrangements for the workshop. The website was updated with new resources and background materials.

III. Challenges/Remedial Actions Taken

N/A

IV. Projected Activities

ICMA will continue to meet with the group of partners on a monthly basis. The workshop content will be developed by ESRI, Trimble, and ICMA and speakers and presenters will be lined up. The workshop will take place July 16-20, 2006.

Annex 1: Financial Information
(will be submitted under separate cover)